

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 324

1 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 324 is amended as follows:

2 **324. SUSPENSION OF RULES.** No standing rule or order of the Senate may be
3 reconsidered or suspended except by a vote of ~~two-thirds~~ a majority of the ~~members-elect~~
4 members present.

5 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 324 is amended as follows:

6 **324. SUSPENSION OF RULES.** No standing rule or order of the House may be
7 reconsidered or suspended except by a vote of ~~two-thirds~~ a majority of the ~~members-elect~~
8 members present, and no motion to suspend the rules and pass a bill may be entertained
9 except by unanimous consent, unless the bill has first been printed and considered by a
10 committee, nor may any standing rule or order requiring unanimous consent be reconsidered or
11 suspended without unanimous consent.

NOTE: This proposed rules amendment is in response to a question of why require a two-thirds vote to suspend rules when rules can be adopted by majority vote. Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure, Section 285, provides for suspension by majority vote. If this proposed amendment is approved, a corresponding change will be made in the listing of vote requirements in Senate and House Rules 318(1) and (4).

Committee members may want to consider whether any similar change should be made to the two-thirds vote requirement in Joint Rule 105 to amend, reconsider, or suspend a joint rule. Joint Rule 105 provides:

105. AMENDMENT, RECONSIDERATION, OR SUSPENSION OF JOINT RULES. After adoption of the joint rules, no joint rule may be amended unless the rule is first reconsidered. A joint rule may not be reconsidered or suspended except by a vote of two-thirds of the members-elect of either house. The house that reconsiders or suspends a joint rule shall notify the other house with respect to that action.